

HEALTH CONCERNS

Iola Cannedy (recuperating at daughter's home after cracking ribs from a fall)
Donna Carmichael (Vertigo)
Deryel Clark (heart issues—resident at Spring Arbor of Greensboro)
Lucy Dillon (health issues)
Faye Hodges (resident at Kerner Ridge, Phone No. 336-817-5989)
Bernie Krecklow (resident at Brookdale Lawndale Park, 336-286-3432)
Judy Maxwell (health issues)
Mike Polinsky (home recuperating from knee replacement surg. on 11/21/2023)
Stan Stigall (health issues)
Millie Vernon (health issues)
Rodgers White (health issues)

Bolen Steve Crutchfield (brain lesions); Ron Smith (cancer); Carmen Spoon (dementia); Lila Bolen (cancer); Amy Ikerd (health issues); Marie Tuttle (breast cancer); Cindy Strickland (diabetes & health issues); Carol Carroll (health issues)
Bowman Stephanie Piraino (daughter—cancerous thyroid removed and undergoing treatment)
Budkey Becca Tate (friend—breast cancer); Richard Hedgecock (bone cancer)
Butler Dan Payne (cancer)
Downing Steve Miller (Shari's brother—cancer)
Kerr Roger Kerr (Kerry's cousin—health issues)
Mattingly Lisa Tuttle (stage 4 emphysema)
Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—primary progressive aphasia)
Roudabush Tim Roudabush (Dottie's son—was hospitalized with seizures—now home but still being monitored for seizures); Dottie's daughter-in-law's mother (bladder cancer)
G. Sharp Brenda Johnson (former choir director—assisted living in Walnut Cove); Larry Mabe (neighbor—cancer); Joyce Wyramon (neighbor—cancer)
S. Sharp Maria Gomes (friend of Spence & Paulo)
Tincher Bernice Tincher (Rich's mom—health issues); JoAngie Semonco (breast cancer—surg. 12/19)
Unknown Kara S. (cancer treatment—healing)
Watts Chandler Stewart (cousin—metastatic kidney cancer)

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Bolen Catherine Bolen (diagnosed with ALS)
Vernon Prayers for family members
Watts Kent Watts (Ellen's son—recuperating from shoulder surg. and travelling mercies—travelling a lot for his job)

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Budkey Linda Spencer (Joy's neighbor—home from hospital—doing well); Killean Phillipp (had 2nd surgery—home recuperating—supposed to walk around Christmas)
G. Sharp Rabbi & Shari Mann (safe in Jerusalem)

SYMPATHIES EXTENDED TO

The family of Kae Mattingly (who passed away Saturday, December 16, 2023)
Bolen The family of Anna Rupard



First Presbyterian Church

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 • Fax: (336) 993-5526 • www.fpckernersville.org

Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Stan Stigall, Music Director

December 31, 2023—*First Sunday of Christmas*

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice in God, who is our life and salvation. Christ has come to make us heirs of God's promises.

All: God commanded, and we were created. We are children of the Most High.

One: Praise God from the heights of heaven. Praise God, all people of the earth.

All: God opens our eyes to see the light. We will be called by a new name.

One: Men and women, youth and aged, sing of God's glory; shout your praise.

All: God has made us heirs of promise. We will praise God's holy name. Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 119

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, we confess that we have not recognized you in our midst nor listened for your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our iniquity goes unrecognized amid our self-concern. We have lived as if we have no need to account for the life we have been given. We are focused more on our own survival than on our mission in the world. We come to you today with sincere repentance for our neglect. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our everyday environment. Pardon and change us, we pray.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.)

Amen.

RESPONSE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God speaks tenderly to us and assures us that our debt has been paid, our sins forgiven, our paths made straight. God's glory is waiting to burst into the midst of all who accept the good news. Surely our salvation is at hand. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. Friends, believe the good news...

All: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

(Please share a sign of peace with others.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Isaiah 43:1-7

Luke 2:22-40

SERMON

"God's Resolution"

Rev. John Pruitt

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 128

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

WZLOBIE LEZY

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"The Apostles' Creed"

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN NO. 113

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Dec 31)

Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Bolen, Nancy Sharp

Serving Next Sunday (Jan 7)

Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Bolen, Nancy Sharp

*You may stand in body or spirit.

*You may stand in body or spirit.